



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Joël CROUZET *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1643

Examiner: Unassigned

JAN 11 2000

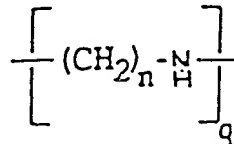
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

On page 16, please delete the formula set forth between lines 1 and 2, and insert therefor the following:



In the Claims:

Please amend claim 24 as follows:

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